

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION BERLIN UNN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 BUCHAREST 0447

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, RO
SUBJECT: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION INITIATIVES: ROMANIA

REF: STATE 4554

1. SUMMARY. IN RESPONSE TO PRESENTATION OF U.S.
VIEWS ON CSCE IMPLEMENTATION, AMBASSADOR LIPATTI
ACKNOWLEDGED GOR DEFICIENCIES IN AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC/
COMMERCIAL INFORMATION PUBLICALLY AVAILABLE, STATED
GOR DESIRE TO MAKE PROCESS OF RESOLVING MARRIAGE
CASES MORE "FLUID", USED DISCUSSION OF EMIGRATION
PROBLEMS TO TAKE SLAP AT TCP PROGRAM, AND URGED
GREATER U.S. SPEED OF VISA ISSUANCE AS MOST EFFECTIVE
MEANS OF VISA FACILITATION. IN CULTURAL/INFORMATIONAL
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AREA, HE AGREED MORE COULD BE DONE IN DIFFUSION OF
PUBLICATIONS AND EXPANSION OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM,
BUT HE POINTED WITH PRCRDE TO GOR RECORD IN TREATMENT
OF FOREIGN NEWSMEN. AS EXPECTED, HE LAID MAJOR
EMPHASIS ON BASKET I ITEMS, AND REVIEWED AT LENGTH
GOR POSITION ON NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MANEUVERS,
ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATIONS TO SEND OBSERVERS, BROADENING

OF MILITARY CONTACTS, AND DISARMAMENT. HE WAS EMPHATIC THAT BELGRADE SHOULD BE A SUBSTANTIVE, WORKING MEETING DESIGNED TO FOSTER "A NEW DYNAMISM" OF IMPLEMENTATION BY ALL FINAL ACT SIGNATORIES. IN BRIEF REPLY, DCM DISABUSED LIPATTI OF CONCERN OVER TCP PROGRAM AND NOTED WE TOO LOOK FORWARD TO A SERIOUS AND PRODUCTIVE SESSION AT BELGRADE. WE BELIEVE CONVERSATION ESTABLISHED

SOLID BASIS FOR FURTHER TALKS IN WASHINGTON IN MARCH AND REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIFIC DATES WE CAN CONVEY TO HIM. END SUMMARY.

2. GENERAL. DCM ACCOMPANIED BY ECON AND POL COUNSELORS PRESENTED DEMARCHE (REFTEL) TO AMBASSADOR VALENTIN LIPATTI, SENIOR GOR OFFICIAL CHARGED WITH CSCE MATTERS, DURING 90 MINUTE SESSION JANUARY 20. DCM PLACED MEETING IN CONTEXT OF CONTINUING SERIES OF BILATERAL CONTACTS ON CSCE, NOTED WE ARE INTERESTED IN REVIEWING ALL ASPECTS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF HELSINKI FINAL ACT, AND STATED OUR VIEW THAT ATMOSPHERE FOR BELGRADE MEETING WILL BE IMPROVED IF ALL SIGNATORIES OLDEMONSTRATE CONCRETE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION. HE EXPRESSED HOPE LIPATTI COULD VISIT WASHINGTON EARLY IN YEAR FOR CONTINUED CONSULTATIONS, BUT NOTED CROWDED AGENDA FACING NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION. LIPATTI READILY AGREED TO IDEA OF "WORKING CONSULTATION" IN WASHINGTON, DECLARED THAT ANY TIME IN MARCH WOULD FIT HIS SCHEDULE, AND STATED HE HAD IN MIND NO MORE THAN TWO DAYS FOR TALKS. IT WAS AGREED PRECISE DATES WOULD BE FIXED
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LATER.

3. ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION. DCM OPENED HIS REVIEW OF INDIVIDUAL PROVISIONS WITH PRESENTATION ON ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION IN WHICH HE WELCOMED IMPROVEMENTS IN CERTAIN AREAS WHILE URGING INCREASED FLOW OF INFORMATION TO CREATE INFORMATION BASE NECESSARY TO STIMULATE TRADE. NOTING WITH SPECIAL PLEASURE ROMANIA'S RELEASE OF GROWING VOLUME OF STATISTICS TO IMF/IBRD/GATT, U.S. HOPES THAT LARGER PORTIONS OF THIS DATA COULD BE PLACED IN PUBLIC DOMAIN. ROMANIAN COMMITMENT AT COMMISSION MEETING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON RESEARCH AND DESIGN INSTITUTES AND INDUSTRIAL CENTRALS WERE CITED AS FURTHER POSITIVE STEP TO ACQUAINT OUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY WITH ROMANIAN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS. ON FLOW OF INFORMATION UNDER OUR AGRICULTURAL PROTOCOLS, U.S. LOOKS FORWARD TO INSTITUTION OF TWO-WAY EXCHANGE RATHER THAN ONE-WAY TRANSFER WHICH HAD

OCCURRED THIS YEAR. INCREASED ROMANIAN EFFORTS ALSO SEEM REQUIRED TO ENHANCE SCOPE AND INCREASE TIMELINESS OF ROMANIA'S TWO BASIC STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS. FINALLY, LIPATTI WAS PRESENTED WITH LIST OF UNANSWERED EMBASSY REQUESTS FOR ROUTINE INDUSTRIAL DATA (CERP REQUESTS), AND ASKED TO ENLIST MFA ASSISTANCE IN SECURING RESPONSES.

4. BASKET III. DCM NOTED OUR SATISFACTION WITH GENERAL POSITIVE TREND IN RESOLUTION OF HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS SINCE MID-1975 AND U.S. HOPE THIS WILL CONTINUE. NEVERTHELESS, SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS REMAIN, OF WHICH MOST WORRISOME IS MIXED U.S.- ROMANIAN MARRIAGES. WHILE WE ARE AWARE THAT GOR MAY HAVE LEGITIMATE GROUNDS FOR CONCERN REGARDING SOME UNIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN ROMANIANS AND FOREIGNERS, IN NO CASE ARE THESE CONCERNS APPLICABLE UP TO NOW TO CONFIDENTIAL

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MARRIAGES BETWEEN U.S. AND ROMANIAN CITIZENS. NEVERTHELESS, THERE ARE A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF CASES PENDING, SOME FOR OVER THREE YEARS OF WHICH DCM LISTED FOUR SPECIFIC EXAMPLES. RESULT IS THAT NEITHER EMBASSY NOR INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED UNDERSTAND REASON FOR DELAYS, AND WE ARE APPREHENSIVE THAT THIS IS ONE ELEMENT WHICH COULD INCREASINGLY IMPINGE ON OUR RELATIONS.

5. ON OTHER BASKET III TOPICS, DCM CITED NOVEMBER 1976 U.S. PROPOSAL FOR VISA FACILITATION AND LACK OF FORMAL GOR RESPONSE, EXPRESSING HOPE WE WOULD HAVE REPLY SOON. U.S. IS CONCERNED AT LACK OF GENERAL AVAILABILITY OF SUCH U.S. PUBLICATIONS AS IHT, TIME, AND NEWSWEEK, AND OUR HOPE IS THAT GOR WILL SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE ACCESS OF GENERAL ROMANIAN PUBLIC TO THEM. NOTING IMMINENT NEGOTIATIONS ON 1977-78 CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM, BOTH SIDES APPEAR TO BE CLOSE IN THEIR THINKING AND WE ANTICIPATE NO MAJOR PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, WE ARE INTERESTED IN ENLARGING PROGRAM TO OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT THROUGH SUCH MEANS AS MORE JOINT SEMINARS LIKE CFR/ADIRI SESSION LAST FALL AND EXCHANGE OF DELEGATIONS IN AREAS OF COMMON BILATERAL INTEREST. AS GENERAL STATEMENT, GOR CAN BE ASSURED WE ARE COMMITTED TO FULFILLING TO MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE AGREEMENTS MADE IN THIS AREA.

6. CBM'S. DCM STRESSED OUR HOPE GOR WILL ACCEPT FUTURE INVITATIONS TO OBSERVE NATO EXERCISES AND INQUIRED WHETHER GOR PLANNED TO ISSUE ANY INVITATIONS

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OF ITS OWN THIS YEAR.

7. IN CONCLUDING REMARKS, DCM STATED THAT ABOVE
POINTS WERE NOT INTENDED TO CONSTITUTE A THOROUGH
REVIEW OF HELSINKI BALANCE SHEET, NOR IS IT IN
INTEREST OF EITHER PARTY TO APPLY A SCORESHEET
MENTALITY. WE BELIEVE IT IS VALUABLE, HOWEVER,
TO EXCHANGE FRANK VIEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF FINAL
ACT, AND U.S. PRESENTATION WAS MADE IN THAT SPIRIT.

8. LIPATTI THANKED US FOR CLEAR PRESENTATION OF
U.S. VIEWS. ON ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION,
LIPATTI EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR POSITIVE
RECOGNITION WE HAD ACCORDED ROMANIAN EFFORTS. HE
INDICATED PRIOR AWARENESS OF OUR CONCERNS FROM
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON CSCE. THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ROMANIA HAS INCREASED ECONOMIC DATA AVAILABLE TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. PERHAPS, HHE ACKNOWLEDGED, MORE CAN BE DONE. THROUGH HIS SUPERIORS HE WOULD CONVEY OUR VIEWS AND REQUESTS TO MFT, WHICH BEARS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR RELEASE OF MUCH ECONOMIC INFORMATION. AS MATTER OF POLICY GOR WOULD HOPE TO INCREASE FLOW OF "CLASSICAL" DATA WHICH IT RECOGNIZED WOULD FACILITATE BUSINESS DECISIONS.

9. ON BASKET III ITEMS, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT MARRIAGE CASES ARE A PARTICULARLY DELICATE ITEM FOR GOR, ESPECIALLY SINCE EACH CASE IS DIFFERENT AND REQUIRES INDIVIDUAL ANALYSIS. STILL, GOR DESIRES TO MAKE PROCESS MORE "FLUID" AND HOES TO ELIMINATE SUCH SITUATIONS AS THREE-YEAR DELAY. THE PROBLEM IS UNDER ACTIVE STUDY AND WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO SOME SPECIFIC CHANGES IN PROCEDURES. SITUATION IS DIFFERENT FOR EMIGRATION, HOWEVER, AND GOR HAS FREQUENTLY STATED ITS GENERAL OPPOSITION TO EMIGRATION OF ROMANIANS TO OTHER COUNTRIES. EVEN SO, GOR HAS TRIED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN INDIVIDUAL CASES BY MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS OR OTHER PROMINENT U.S. PERSONALITIES. OFTEN, HOWEVER, GOR HAS OBSERVED THAT ROMANIAN CITIZENS, ONCE THEY HAVE PUT THEIR AFFAIRS IN ORDER HERE AND HAVE BEEN ISSUED ROMANIAN PASSPORTS, ARE NOT ISSUED U.S. RESIDENCE VISAS BUT FIND THEMSELVES WAITING IN "CAMPS" IN VARIOUS WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FOR PROCESSING TO UNITED STATES. SURELY THIS CANNOT BE THE U.S. DESIRE, NOR DOES IT ACCORD WITH FINAL ACT OR FACILITATE GOR PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR EMIGRATION. TURNING TO VISA FACILITATION, LIPATTI SAID U.S. CAN EXPECT GOR RESPONSE IN NEAR FUTURE. IN THIS "PERSONAL" VIEW, HOWEVER, QUESTIONS OF MULTIPLE ENTRY AND EXTENDED VALIDITY ARE MORE CONFIDENTIAL

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APPROPRIATE FOR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WHEREAS IN U.S. CASE MORE USEFUL WOULD BE TO CUT TIME REQUIRED TO ISSUE VISAS. CITING FACT GOR ISSUES VISAS TO TOURISTS ON THE SPOT AT ROMANIAN PORTS OF ENTRY, LIPATTI ARGUED THAT SOMETHING SIMILAR AND RECIPROCAL TO THIS ARRANGEMENT FROM U.S. SIDE IS OF GREATEST INTEREST TO GOR.

10. IN CULTURAL/INFORMATIONAL FIELD, LIPATTI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT MORE COULD BE DONE IN TERMS OF DIFFUSION OF PUBLICATIONS, ESPECIALLY THROUGH

AMERICAN LIBRARY HERE AND ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NEW YORK. NEVERTHELESS, BOTH "IDEOLOGICAL" PROBLEMS AND LACK OF HARD CURRENCY DO IMPEDE U.S.-ROMANIAN CULTURAL DIALOGUE IN THIS AREA. ON OTHER HAND, GOR FAVORS SUCH THINGS AS ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS AND YOUTH EXCHANGES SINCE "WE LIKE TO EXCHANGE IDEAS." CONSEQUENTLY, NEW AREAS UNDER CULTURAL EXCHANGE UMBRELLA SHOULD BE EXPLORED, BUT EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON QUALITY AND NOT QUANTITY. FINAL ITEM IN THIS AREA NOT RAISED BY U.S. HE CONTINUED, IS TREATMENT OF FOREIGN NEWSMEN IN ROMANIA, AND HERE GOR IS PROUD OF ITS RECORD, PARTICULARLY FACT THAT NEWSMEN ARE FREE TO MAKE CONTACTS THEY WISH AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO MAJOR PROBLEM FOR AT LEAST SEVEN OR EIGHT YEARS.

11. TURNING TO AREA OF PRIME GOR INTEREST, LIPATTI SAID GOR PLANS TO LAY MAJOR STRESS AT BELGRADE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PRINCIPLES AND MILITARY ASPECTS OF FINAL ACT. HE SHARPLY DISTINGUISHED THREE SPECIFIC AREAS: A) MILITARY MANEUVERS - GOR HAS RECEIVED VARIOUS NOTIFICATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGED THEM ALL, BOTH NATIONAL AND MULTI-NATIONAL. IN 1976, ROMANIA DID NOT CONDUCT MILITARY

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MANEUVERS OF SIZE WHICH REQUIRED NOTIFICATION; IF THERE HAD BEEN, GOR WOULD HAVE NOTIFIED OTHER COUNTRIES "RIGOROUSLY". GOR DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN WARSAW PACT TROOP MANEUVERS BUT DOES PARTICIPATE IN NON-TROOP STAFF EXERCISES WHEN CONDUCTED IN ROMANIA, AND THIS POLICY WILL CONTINUE. B) OBSERVERS - ROMANIA HAS BEEN INVITED TO SEND OBSERVERS TO BOTH NATIONAL AND MULTI-NATIONAL EXERCISES AND HAS ACTUALLY SENT OBSERVERS TO THE FORMER--SOVIET, YUGOSLAV, AND SWISS. REASONS WHY GOR DECLINED FRG INVITATION TO OBSERVE A NATO EXERCISE WERE BOTH TECHNICAL AND OF POLITICAL PRINCIPLE. GOR HAS NO MILITARY ATTACHE IN BONN, SO SINCE INVITATION WAS LIMITED TO EMBASSY PERSONNEL, NO SPECIALIST WAS AVAILABLE TO ATTEND. "WE SAW NO POINT IN SENDING THE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE."

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MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOWEVER, GOR DOES NOT LIKE TO
SEND OBSERVERS TO PACT MANEUVERS--ANY PACT--AND
STRONGLY PREFERS TO ATTEND ONLY UNILATERAL EXERCISES.
C) BROADENING OF MILITARY CONTACTS - AS EVIDENCED
BY BILATERAL VISITS WITH U.S. LAST YEAR, GOR
ENDORSES EXPANSION OF CONTACTS, EXCHANGES OF
DELEGATIONS, AND SIMILAR ITEMS SINCE SUCH ACTIVITIES
HELP MAINTAIN A DIALOGUE AND MAY PRODUCE CONCRETE
BENEFITS.

12. AT BELGRADE, GOR WILL SEEK FULL EVALUATION OF
CBM'S TOWARD GOAL OF IMPROVING DETENTE. GOR HAS NO
CONCRETE PROPOSALS YET, BUT IT DOES HAVE SEVERAL
IDEAS UNDER ACTIVE STUDY. IN SIMILAR VEIN, GOR IS
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ALSO DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH DISARMEMENT QUESTIONS, THE
SALT AND MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, AND WITH OTHER MEASURES
TO INCREASE MUTUAL CONFIDENCE. GIVEN TROOP AND
ARMEMENT CONCENTRATIONS IN EUROPE, GOR SEES THIS AS
MOST IMPORTANT AREA IN WHICH CONCRETE PROGRESS IS
ESSENTIAL. MORE GENERALLY, IN GOR VIEW BELGRADE
CONFERENCE SHOULD EVALUATE ALL BASKETS, "WITH NO

SCANDAL, NO PROPAGANDA, AND NO POLEMICS." IT SHOULD BE A "SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS" OF WHAT HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED, WHAT HAS NOT, AND WHAT STEPS SHOULD THEN BE TAKEN. MOST IMPORTANTLY, BELGRADE SHOULD NOT BE SIMPLY A CONSULTATIVE FORUM; A NEW DYNAMISM SHOULD RESULT WITH ALL 35 SIGNATORIES MOVING TOGETHER TO IMPLEMENT A PRACTICAL WORKING PROGRAM OF IMPLEMENTATION BASED ON FINAL ACT. WHILE BILATERAL EFFORTS ARE IN NO WAY EXCLUDED, EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON MULTILATERAL FOLLOWUP, AND THERE SHOULD BE ADDITIONAL PERIODIC MEETINGS IN THE FUTURE. IN CONCLUSION, LIPATTI AGAIN STRESSED NEED FOR BELGRADE TO BE A SERIOUS, WORKING MEETING; "IT WILL ACHIEVE NO PRESTIGE UNLESS IT IS BASED ON SUBSTANCE."

13. IN BRIEF REPLY, DCM THANKED LIPATTI FOR HIS COMPRE-
HENSIVE PRESENTATION AND ASSURED HIM OF SERIOUS U.S. DESIRE THAT BELGRADE CONFERENCE REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION WITH PROPAGANDA, CONSIDER NEW PROPOSALS, AND MAKE CONCRETE DECISIONS FOR FOLLOWUP. NOTING LIPATTI'S COMMENT ABOUT ROMANIAN EMIGREES WAITING IN "CAMPS", DCM SAID THIS WAS SECOND TIME IN TWO DAYS HE HAD HEARD GOR OFFICIAL USE THIS TERM IN CONNECTION WITH TCP PROGRAM. HE THEN REVIEWED IN DETAIL BACKGROUND AND OPERATION OF TCP PROGRAM, STRESSING THAT ALL PERSONS ARE WELL HOUSED AND OTHERWISE CARED FOR AT U.S. GOVERNMENT EXPENSE AS CONFIDENTIAL

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THEY AWAIT PROCESSING WHICH NORMALLY TAKES FOUR TO SEVEN WEEKS. MOREOVER, UP TO NOW, SO FAR AS WE KNOW NO ROMANIAN IN THIS GROUP HAS BEEN REJECTED FOR ADMITTANCE TO UNITED STATES. PROGRAM HAD BEEN INITIATED IN ORDER TO SOLVE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS EXACERBATED BY BUREAUCRACIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. IT WAS WORKING WELL. IF GOR HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH IT WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR THEM. MEANWHILE LIPATTI AND HIS MFA COLLEAGUES SHOULD REST ASSURED THERE ARE NO CAMPS, NO TENTS, NO BARBED WIRE OR DOGS.

14. COMMENT: ATMOSPHERE WAS CORDIAL AND FRANK THROUGHOUT, AND WE DETECTED LITTLE INDICATION ON LIPATTI'S PART OF "SCORE CARD MENTALITY". ALTHOUGH WE WERE DISAPPOINTED IF NOT EXACTLY SURPRISED AT LACK OF CONCRETE RESPONSES TO SEVERAL OF OUR SPECIFIC POINTS, WE BELIEVE CONVERSATION ESTABLISHES SOLID BASIS FOR FURTHER TALKS IN WASHINGTON. MEANWHILE, WE WILL ATTEMPT SMOKE OUT FROM LIPATTI'S STAFF JUST

WHAT IS ON ROMANIANS' MINDS IN RESPECT TO PROPOSALS
THEY INTEND TO MAKE CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF
MILITARY ASPECTS OF BASKET I. ACTION REQUESTED: WE
HOPE LIPATTI PROPOSAL OF MARCH DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS
IS ACCEPTABLE TO DEPT. IF SO REQUEST SPECIFIC DATES
WE CAN CONVEY TO HIM. FYI: WITHOUT PROMPTING HE
RECOGNIZED DIFFICULTIES FEBRUARY WOULD POSE FOR
DEPT., BUT ALSO NOTED THAT APRIL WOULD NOT BE
CONVENIENT FOR HIM.
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